

The impact of comparative state-directed development on working conditions and employee satisfaction

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Abstract

In this research, I apply and extend Kohli's state-directed development framework to better understand country-level factors influencing cross-national differences in job characteristics and job satisfaction. Prior research has indicated that the nature of work has changed dramatically in recent years in response to economic shifts and an increasingly global economy. However, there is little agreement on whether the overall quality of work has improved or declined over that period and little is known about the overall comparative quality of work and job satisfaction across the global economy. In this study I use non-panel longitudinal data from the International Social Survey Program (survey questions on job characteristics and job quality) and various country-contextual variables. This article explores the impact of state-directed development on job satisfaction, first identifying and explaining the foundations of the statist literature, and then using various statistical methods to test for statistically significant impact and variation across countries.

Keywords: job satisfaction, state-directed development, cross-national analysis

INTRODUCTION

Since Happock's seminal work on the topic in 1935, job satisfaction has continued to generate interest across disciplines, from psychology (Argyle, 1989) and sociology (Kalleberg & Loscocco, 1983; Hodson, 2002), to economics (Freeman, 1978; Hamermesh, 2001), management sciences (Hunt & Saul, 1975), and public administration (Durst & DeSantis, 1997; Wright & Kim, 2004; Jung, Moon, & Hahm, 2007). The interest in job satisfaction, as much for researchers as for practitioners, is due to several reasons. Satisfied workers are more productive (Appelbaum & Kamal, 2000), deliver higher quality of work (Tietjen & Myers, 1998), and improve a firm's competitiveness and success (Garrido, Perez, & Anton, 2005). Conversely, unsatisfied workers are more frequently late for work, absent from work, and motivated to leave the firm (Blau, 1994; Lee, 1998).

Additionally, many researchers have suggested an increasing importance in the role that our work plays in our everyday lives, with most able-body individuals spending at least one-half or more of their waking hours in the workplace (in one form or another), and with the landscape of work in the United States and across the world changing dramatically over the past 15–20 years in response to economic shifts, technological advances, and an increasingly global economy (e.g., Jamison, Jamison, & Wallace, 2004; Handel, 2005). As work plays an increasingly significant role in our lives, and as different workplaces are unique – each with its own particular set of characteristics, it is important to understand what it is about the workplace that impacts our lives and how these characteristics impact a worker's overall job satisfaction.

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The vast cross-disciplinary literature exploring work quality and job satisfaction has linked worker experiences to many individual, organizational, and social outcomes, yet this research has largely failed to shed much light on why cross-national differences in worker satisfaction and its determinants persist over time. An often accepted job satisfaction model, commonly considered to be widely generalizable across a wide variety of cross-cultural and cross-national contexts, actually appears to have a lack of applicability across countries (see Westover, 2010a, 2010b, 2011; Westover & Taylor, 2010; Taylor & Westover, 2011).

The core questions driving this research are: (1) what are the empirical cross-national differences in job characteristics and job satisfaction, and (2) what are the causes behind these differences? Cross-cultural researchers would suggest that any such differences would all be due to cultural differences between countries. However, the limited research that explores work quality characteristics and job satisfaction from a cross-cultural perspective has largely failed to show how countries with similar cultural orientations still experience significant differences and how countries with different cultural orientations still experience similarities.

The question remains, what are the causes for these country differences. More specifically, what are the key country-level contextual and global-macro variables driving these country differences in job characteristics and perceived worker satisfaction (which is of increasing relevance in the age of an ever more globalized economy and hyper-competitive global marketplace)? Existing research cannot answer these and other related questions. Like many work attitudes, job satisfaction is a dynamic construct that changes in response to personal and environmental conditions. Monitoring job satisfaction over time and in different contexts will allow one to better examine and understand the salient factors that affect job satisfaction.

The overall purpose in conducting this research is to (1) empirically test (using various bivariate descriptive procedures and comparative OLS regression) significant, cross-national differences in job satisfaction and its determinants and (2) explore the reasons for these cross-national differences, moving beyond the research of social psychologists and organizational behavior researchers, to also include import macro cross-national factors that directly influence these differences.

LITERATURE REVIEW OVERVIEW

The conceptualization of job satisfaction

Job satisfaction has been conceptualized in different ways. Some have simply regarded it as the degree to which people like their jobs (Spector, 1997). Others see it as the degree of fit between the features of a job and workers' expectations. Based on this approach, workers are relatively more satisfied with their jobs when their expectations are fulfilled or exceeded; otherwise, dissatisfaction would be the outcome of a work experience (Tutuncu & Kozak, 2007). Job satisfaction is in fact commonly explained using the person–environment fit paradigm or needs-satisfaction model. The more a job fulfills the workers' needs or values, the higher should be their job satisfaction levels (Kristof-Brown, 1996; Traut, Larsen, & Feimer, 2000; Ellickson, 2002). Rather than confine the definition of job satisfaction to job features, several researchers have incorporated the work environment. They see job satisfaction as a multidimensional attitude of workers toward their jobs and work places (Clark & Oswald, 1996; Davis & Newstrom, 1999; Hamermesh, 2001). Additionally, theorists and researchers alike have often looked at job satisfaction in terms of nonmaterial (intrinsic) and nonmaterial (extrinsic) rewards (Kalleberg, 1977; Handel, 2005).

Empirical studies looking at the impact of various antecedents of job satisfaction tend to be divided into three: (1) those that link satisfaction with the personal characteristics of employees, such as gender, and education (Oshagbemi, 2000); (2) those that link satisfaction with elements of the work

carried out by the employee, such as job characteristics, personal relations, and the work environment (Hackman & Oldham, 1980); and (3) those that link this variable with the working conditions offered by the firm to the employee, such as compensation, promotion, and job security (Kotorov & Hsu, 2001; Darmon, Rigaux-Bricmont, & Balloffet, 2003). Accordingly, the three central accounts for workers' satisfaction with their jobs are the characteristics of individuals, jobs, and organizations (Glisson & Durick, 1988; Judge & Church, 2000; Haley-Lock, 2008).

Overview of the statist-job satisfaction link

There are various explanations for why and how job satisfaction and its work determinants can differ cross-nationally, based on national contextual factors. One theoretical perspective that can provide some explanations for why and how job satisfaction and its work determinants can differ cross-nationally is the statist perspective or international political economy perspective. While many theorists have argued for a global world system (e.g., Wallerstein, 1974, 2000), there is a growing body of scholarship that has shown a renewed interest in exploring the role of the state in the global economy (e.g., Hirschman, 1945; Evans, Ruschemeyer, & Skocpol, 1985; Tilly, 1990; Mann, 1993; Evans, 1994, 1995; Meyer, Boli, Francisco, Thomas, & Ramirez, 1997; Gilpin, 2001; Kohli, 2004), while others argue that states are not the only actors in the international political economy, but they are the most important actors (e.g., Gilpin, 2001).

There are many aspects of the state that prior cross-national research has taken into account. In brief summary, these aspects include understanding state regime type and level of democratization (Polanyi, 1944; Moore, 1966; Evans, 1994, 1995; Kohli, 2004), understanding the effect of colonization on potential existing and future domestic economy (Kohli, 2004), issues surrounding the level of state political power and industrialization (Evans, Ruschemeyer, & Skocpol, 1985; Mann, 1993), state military buildup and power (Evans, Ruschemeyer, & Skocpol, 1985; Tilly, 1990), the relative embeddedness and autonomy of the state with business interests (Evans, Ruschemeyer, & Skocpol, 1985; Evans, 1995), the balance of state regulation with the sharing of state power with social groups (Polanyi, 1944; Moore, 1966), level state bureaucratic apparatus and decentralization (Evans, Ruschemeyer, & Skocpol, 1985), the state's role in the establishing, building, and sustaining of markets (Fligstein & Merand, 2002; Kohli, 2004), and the relative level of welfare state work safety-net provision (Stephens, 1979a, 1979b; Korpi, 1983; Epsing-Andersen, 1985; Hicks & Swank, 1992; Huber & Stephens, 2001).

Among the many statist researchers, Kohli (2004) examined patterns of state construction and state intervention aimed at promoting industrialization and argues that the type of state involvement in society directly impacts development trajectory of that society, and thus the nature of working conditions within that society. Furthermore, Kohli developed a typology to examine the nature of different state regime 'ideal types' in this relationship, including: (1) neopatrimonial states, (2) cohesive-capitalist states, and (3) fragmented-multiclass states (neopatrimonial states and cohesive-capitalist states are on two ends of the state authority spectrum, with fragmented-multiclass states falling in the middle). Cohesive-capitalist states help to facilitate the availability of capital, labor, technology, and entrepreneurship, while also 'enabling private investors to have a ready supply of cheap, 'flexible,' and disciplined labor' (p. 13). In contrast, in 'instead of strengthening the private sector, [neopatrimonial states] have appropriated scarce economic resources and diverted them everywhere but toward productive investment' (p. 15). Additionally, cohesive-capitalist states have a lot more 'power to define and pursue their goals than neopatrimonial states, with fragmented-multiclass states falling somewhere in between' and the two key determinants of the variation in state power are 'organizational characteristics of state institutions... and the manner in which states craft their relations with social classes, especially the producer classes' (p. 21). In fragmented-multiclass states, power is not highly concentrated and leaders are generally committed to a broad set of goals and a variety of interest groups within the states make their demands known to the ruling elite. Kohli's typology will be

useful in this research as it will allow me to connect variation in the nature of the state to variation in working conditions. Furthermore, his typology provides the means for making country comparisons in relation to other state-level political and economic conditions that in turn impact working conditions and the experience of workers in the workplace.

Kohli's typology of state directed development regime types is a county-level factor that shapes the broad domestic context for workplace conditions that can impact workers' satisfaction levels and its determinants. Extrinsic rewards and working conditions have been reported to be worse in states Kohli (2004) classifies as cohesive-capitalist and neopatrimonial in nature, as compared with those same conditions in fragmented multi-class states, while intrinsic workplace characteristics and workplace relations have been shown to be more salient toward worker satisfaction and work quality factors for countries with less oppressive fragmented multi-class regimes (Lee, 1997; Benner, 2002; Sweet & Munck, 2002; Kohli, 2004; Mendenhall, Oddou, & Stahl, 2007; Perrucci & Perrucci, 2007; Dowling & Welch, 2008; Meiksins, 2008). Additionally, workers in countries with a relatively greater level of welfare state safety net provisions experience less concern over extrinsic work rewards and conditions than those without such provisions (Epsing-Andersen, 1985; Skocpol, 1988; Weir, Orloff, & Skocpol, 1988; Pampel & Williamson, 1989; Hall, 1999; Hall & Soskice, 2001; Huber & Stephens, 2001; Scruggs & Allan, 2006). For example, Kohli (2004) found that coercive-capitalist states of South Korea repressed workers with a nearly warlike mobilization of labor to create a highly productive workforce (resulting in very poor working conditions related to workplace safety and health, wages, working hours, and areas of job enlargement and empowerment), whereas fragmented multi-class state of India encouraged a highly politicized labor force that never amounted to a cohesive capitalist force (resulting in greater workplace flexibility for workers, and better overall working conditions).

The statist perspective is important to the cross-national examination of job quality characteristics and job satisfaction because it provides an important alternative avenue to the cross-cultural explanation for understanding the reasons behind international differences in that impact job satisfaction and its determinants. Based on the different needs fulfillment models (that put first-level importance on basic 'existence' needs) of Maslow, Alderfer, and Herzberg (see Maslow, 1943; Herzberg, Mausner, & Snyderman, 1959; Alderfer, 1972), this would lead to the logical conclusion that workers in cohesive-capitalist and neopatrimonial states with relatively worse working conditions would be more greatly motivated and satisfied by extrinsic workplace factors, while workers in fragmented multi-class states with better working conditions would be better able to move beyond the various extrinsic 'existence' needs and move toward the more 'self-actualization' and 'personal fulfillment' intrinsic needs. Thus, the statist perspective provides yet another important conceptual tool in the cross-national examination of job quality characteristics and job satisfaction.

DISCUSSION OF VARIABLES

Description of data

This research utilizes non-panel longitudinal data from the International Social Survey Program (1989, 1997, 2005 – various survey questions on job characteristics and job quality). The International Social Survey Program Work Orientations modules utilized a multistage stratified probability sample to collect the data for each of the various countries with a variety of eligible participants in each country's target population¹. The Work Orientations module focuses on the areas of general attitudes

¹ International Social Survey Program Researchers collected the data via self-administered questionnaires, personal interviews, and mail-back questionnaires, depending on the country, and were collected in 1989, 1996–1997, and 2004–2005, respectively.

toward work and leisure, work organization, and work content². Variables of interest in the data collected by the International Social Survey Program are single-item indicators (i.e., with a single survey question for job satisfaction, interesting work, job autonomy, workplace relations, etc., on a Likert scale). For the purposes of this study, the units of analysis are individuals within the separate sovereign nations. In addition to examining one large sample including all respondents from all participating countries, a separate sample for each country is also examined to determine which job characteristics best predict job satisfaction in that particular country and then make cross-national comparisons (see also Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011; Taylor & Westover, 2011).

Operationalization of variables

This research follows Westover's (2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011) job satisfaction model (based on Kalleberg's, 1977 findings and Handel's, 2005 study) for conducting a cross-national comparison of job satisfaction and the perceived importance of intrinsic and extrinsic job quality characteristic variations across countries (see also Spector, 1997; Sousa-Poza & Sousa-Poza, 2000; Muñoz de Bustillo Llorente & Macías, 2005; Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011). Handel (2005) characterized 12 variables from the General Social Survey into intrinsic and extrinsic job quality factors. Ten of the 12 variables used by Handel are available for all countries in each of the three waves of the International Social Survey data used for this study and are outlined below.

Key job quality characteristics related to job satisfaction

All variables are single-item measures based on the survey questions below (see also Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011).

Dependent variable

Job satisfaction ³	'How satisfied are you in your main job?'
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Key independent variables (from the International Social Survey Program):

Intrinsic rewards

Non-material rewards ⁴	
Interesting job	'My job is interesting'
Job autonomy	'I can work independently'

² For a full summary and description of this research, see the ICPSR Study Scope and Description Summary at <http://webapp.icpsr.umich.edu/cocoon/ICPSR-STUDY/03032.xml>

³ Response categories for this variable included, 1 = 'completely dissatisfied,' 2 = 'very dissatisfied,' 3 = 'fairly dissatisfied,' 4 = 'neither satisfied nor dissatisfied,' 5 = 'fairly satisfied,' 6 = 'very satisfied,' 7 = 'completely satisfied,' 8 = 'can't choose,' and 9 = 'no answer.'

⁴ Response categories for these variables included, 1 = 'strongly disagree,' 2 = 'disagree,' 3 = 'neither agree nor disagree,' 4 = 'agree,' 5 = 'strongly agree,' 8 = 'can't choose,' and 9 = 'no answer.'

Quality of workplace interpersonal relationships ⁵	
Management-employee relations	'In general, how would you describe relations at your workplace between management and employees?'
Coworker relations	'In general, how would you describe relations at your workplace between workmates/colleagues?'

Extrinsic rewards

Material rewards ⁶	
Pay	'My income is high'
Job security	'My job is secure'
Promotional opportunities	'My opportunities for advancement are high'

Other work conditions ⁷	
Workload	'How often do you come home from work exhausted?'
Physical effort	'How often do you have to do hard physical work?'
Danger	'How often do you work in dangerous conditions?'

Individual control variables

Though the literature has identified many important individual control variables, due to limitations in data availability, control variables used were limited to the following, individual characteristics (see Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011): *full-time/part-time status*, *self-employment status*, *gender*, *age*, *marital status*, and *education* (see Hammermesh, 1999; Sousa-Poza & Sousa-Poza, 2000; Hodson, 2002; Carlson & Mellor, 2004).

Country contextual variables

As country-contextual proxies for the statist perspective, a series of dummy variables were created for those country-level contextual variables related to these statist hypotheses, including: (1) high/low

⁵ Response categories for these variable included 1 = 'very bad,' 2 = 'bad,' 3 = 'neither good nor bad,' 4 = 'good,' 5 = 'very good,' 8 = 'can't choose,' and 9 = 'no answer.'

⁶ Response categories for these variables included, 1 = 'strongly disagree,' 2 = 'disagree,' 3 = 'neither agree nor disagree,' 4 = 'agree,' 5 = 'strongly agree,' 8 = 'can't choose,' and 9 = 'no answer.'

⁷ Response categories for these variable included 1 = 'never,' 2 = 'hardly ever,' 3 = 'sometimes,' 4 = 'often,' 5 = 'always,' 8 = 'can't choose,' and 9 = 'no answer.'

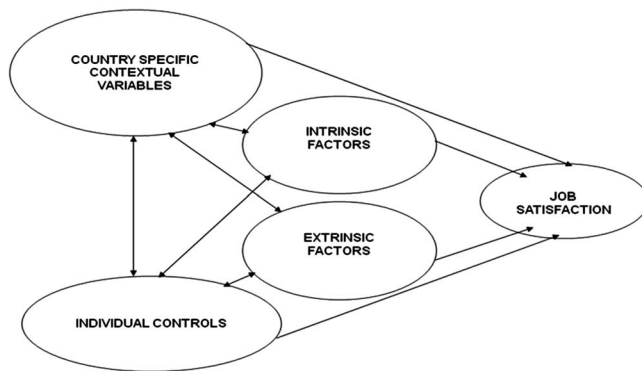


FIGURE 1. FACTORS IMPACTING WORK CHARACTERISTICS AND JOB SATISFACTION

scores on the economic freedom index, (2) high/low scores on the rigidity of employment index, (3) high/low scores on the human development index, and (4) high/low scores on the democratization index (see Meyer et al., 1997; Gilpin, 2001; Kohli, 2004 for further justification of these measures). Additionally, a dummy variable was created to designate whether a country was either a cohesive-capitalist or fragmented multi-class (categorization based on Kohli's, 2004 typology; see Appendix A for additional variable details).

Model

Figure 1 depicts the overall theoretical model of the influences on job quality and overall job satisfaction. In addition to the various intrinsic and extrinsic factors examined in most satisfaction research, this model also includes commonly omitted factors, including country-specific contextual variables, including national-level economic variables. I argue that each of these macro-level conditions set the stage for job quality conditions and worker satisfaction within a given nation. Furthermore, as a result of differing macro-level and differing job quality conditions, countries will have a difference in intrinsic and extrinsic work quality factors and their saliency to perceived satisfaction.

METHODOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

Statistical methodology

First, this research uses data from the International Social Survey to perform a descriptive statistical analysis of work characteristics and job satisfaction for individual countries and across nations. These bivariate and multivariate analysis include trend analysis, correlations, ANOVA and ANCOVA procedures, cross-tabulations, as well as general descriptive statistics of job quality characteristics and job satisfaction in each country to provide descriptive comparative similarities and differences between countries. Additionally, both aggregate and country-specific OLS regression models of the impact of individual work characteristics on job satisfaction were generated to provide additional comparison between countries⁸.

⁸ While all of these various analyzes were conducted, due to length restrictions only some are provided here; others are available from the author upon request.

Due to the ordinal nature of the dependant variable, it is most appropriate to use an ordered probit regression to look at the effect of different job characteristics on one's overall job satisfaction. However, many researchers have argued that using OLS regression is appropriate when looking at satisfaction variables on a Likert scale, where most respondents understand that the difference between responses of 1 and 2 is the same as the difference between responses of 2 and 3, and so on (see Handel, 2005; Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011). Additionally, using OLS regression results allows us to report an R^2 and adjusted R^2 value for the model and compare coefficients across models, which comparison is not appropriate in a probit model. Therefore, all regression results reported herein are OLS regression results. It is important to note that when the same OLS models were run in an ordered probit regression, the same significant results appeared for each of the independent and control variables across countries and waves (full ordered probit model results, are available upon request).

Limitations of data

One of the primary limitations of the available attitudinal data is that each question represents a subjective single item indicator. As Sousa-Poza and Sousa-Poza aptly point out, '[Subjective Well Being] scores depend on the type of scale used, the ordering of the items, the time-frame of the questions, the current mood at the time of measurement, and other situational factors' (see also Diener, Diener, & Diener, 1995; Sousa-Poza & Sousa-Poza, 2000: 5; Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011). They further point out that, as the International Social Survey Program data set only measures job satisfaction as a single-item indicator, variance due to the wording of the item cannot be averaged out and the single item further makes the evaluation of internal consistency problematic. Another problem is the non-panel longitudinal nature of the data. This research uses three waves of cross-sectional data and therefore one cannot specifically test the direction of causality among the variables examined as would be possible with panel longitudinal data. However, a conceptual framework is provided that hypothesizes the path of causality in addition to utilizing non-panel longitudinal data, which enables comparison of like variables over time (see also Westover, 2008a, 2008b, 2010a, 2010b, 2011). Additionally, some variables of interest (i.e., work-related stress) and other important control variables (e.g., total hours worked per week, or whether or not an individual worked for the government or not) cannot be included in the analysis, as data are not available for each wave of data collection across all countries of interest.

HYPOTHESES

There are various explanations for why and how job satisfaction and its work determinants can differ cross-nationally, based on national contextual factors. One of these explanations is the role of state-directed development within a broader global economic and political context. In fact, recently increasingly numbers of scholars have shown a renewed interest in exploring the role of the state as an autonomous actor within a globalized economy, directly influencing country-level contextual business-related facets. Additionally, statist researchers have examined the level of state power and industrialization, the relative level of state embeddedness and autonomy with business interests, the level of bureaucratization, how states build and sustain markets, and state welfare provisions that impact the workplace (Meyer et al., 1997; Gilpin, 2001; Kohli, 2004). These factors shape the broad domestic context for workplace conditions that can impact workers' satisfaction levels and the determinants. Furthermore extrinsic rewards and working conditions have been reported to be worse in states Kohli (2004) classifies as cohesive-capitalist and neopatrimonial in nature, as compared with those same conditions in fragmented multi-class states (Benner, 2002; Munck, 2002; Kohli, 2004;

Perrucci & Perrucci, 2007; Dowling & Welch, 2008; Sweet & Meiksins, 2008). As was the case with the world-systems argument above, based on the different needs fulfillment models of Maslow, Alderfer, and Herzberg (see Maslow, 1943; Herzberg, Mausner, & Snyderman, 1959; Alderfer, 1972), this would lead to the logical conclusion that workers in cohesive-capitalist and neopatrimonial states with relatively worse working conditions would be more greatly motivated and satisfied by extrinsic workplace factors, while workers in fragmented multi-class states with better working conditions would be better able to move beyond the various extrinsic 'existence' needs and move toward the more 'self-actualization' and 'personal fulfillment' intrinsic needs. Thus, this framework leads to two hypotheses (specifically following Kohli's typology):

Hypothesis 1: Workers in cohesive-capitalist states will experience worse overall job quality and perceived job satisfaction than workers in fragmented multi-class states.

Hypothesis 2a: Job satisfaction is more closely linked to extrinsic workplace rewards and other workplace conditions for workers in cohesive-capitalist states.

Hypothesis 2b: Job satisfaction is more closely linked to intrinsic workplace rewards and workplace relationships for workers in fragmented multi-class states.

RESULTS

Descriptive statistics

Table 1 shows mean changes in job satisfaction by country and wave. Specifically, for those six countries included in all three waves (West Germany, Great Britain, United States, Hungary, Norway, and Israel), all but Israel (which increased in each wave) saw a dip in mean job satisfactions scores from 1989 to 1997 and then a rebound from 1997 to 2005 with 2005 levels surpassing 1989 levels. Additionally, New Zealand, the Philippines, Spain, France, Cyprus, and Denmark were the only countries of the 22 countries included in both the 1997 and 2005 waves that saw a decline in mean job satisfaction from 1997 to 2005 (Table 2).

Intercorrelations among the main study variables

Job satisfaction was found to be significantly related to each of the main study variables in each wave of the study (International Social Survey Program 1989, 1997, and 2005)⁹: management/employee relations, coworker relations, job autonomy, interesting work, job security, pay, promotional opportunities, workload, physical effort, and danger. The relationships of the study variables appear to be in the anticipated direction.

Regression results

Table 3 below shows OLS regression model specifications for each country across the three waves of the study (complete regression results for each country across each wave are available upon request). It is interesting to note the difference in model predictability from country to country and from year to year. In 1989, West Germany has the highest adjusted R^2 (0.4991), while Hungary has the lowest (0.2232). Israel (0.2665) and Austria (0.3028) also each have relatively lower adjusted R^2 statistics, with the remainder of the countries falling somewhere from 0.38 to 0.46. In 1997, Canada (0.4874) and Great Britain (0.4809) have the highest adjusted R^2 values, while the Philippines has the lowest adjusted R^2 (0.1686). Portugal, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Bulgaria, each have relatively

⁹ Due to space limitations, complete correlation matrices for all variables for all years are available upon request.

TABLE 1. STUDY COUNTRIES BY YEAR

1989	1997	2005
West Germany	West Germany	Australia
Great Britain	East Germany	Germany
United States	Great Britain	East Germany
Austria	United States	Great Britain
Hungary	Hungary	United States
The Netherlands	Italy	Hungary
Italy	The Netherlands	Ireland
Ireland	Norway	Norway
Northern Ireland	Sweden	Sweden
Norway	Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Israel	Slovenia	Slovenia
	Poland	Bulgaria
	Bulgaria	Russia
	Russia	New Zealand
	New Zealand	Canada
	Canada	Philippines
	Philippines	Israel
	Israel	Japan
	Japan	Spain
	Spain	Latvia
	France	France
	Cyprus	Cyprus
	Portugal	Portugal
	Denmark	Denmark
	Switzerland	Switzerland
	Bangladesh	Flanders
		Finland
		Mexico
		Taiwan
		South Africa
		South Korea
		Dominican Republic

lower adjusted R^2 values, ranging from 0.2784 to 0.3395, respectively. The remaining 19 countries have adjusted R^2 values ranging from 0.3615 to 0.4798. In 2005, Cyprus had far and away the highest (0.6866), followed by France (0.5701) and Australia (0.5293). Flanders (Belgium) and the Philippines each had by far the lowest adjusted R^2 values, at 0.1753 and 0.1896, respectively. The Dominican Republic (0.2339), Hungary (0.2355), and Mexico (0.2579) also had among the lowest adjusted R^2 values among the 32 countries. The remaining 26 countries have adjusted R^2 values somewhere between 0.2873 and 0.4961, with the vast majority at the higher end.

Testing hypotheses

Among the various explanations for why and how job satisfaction and its work determinants can differ cross-nationally, one such possible explanation is embodied in the statist or international political economy perspective (exploring the role of the state as an autonomous actor within a globalized economy, directly influencing country-level contextual business-related facets conditions that can impact workers' satisfaction levels and the determinants; see Meyer et al., 1997; Gilpin, 2001;

TABLE 2. MEAN JOB SATISFACTION, BY COUNTY AND YEAR (1989–2005)

Country	1989	1997	2005
Australia	–	–	5.18
Austria	5.46	–	–
Bangladesh	–	5.30	–
Bulgaria	–	5.02	5.09
Canada	–	5.10	5.24
Cyprus	–	5.61	4.97
Czech Republic	–	5.12	5.16
Denmark	–	5.70	5.51
Dominican Republic	–	–	5.36
Finland	–	–	5.31
Flanders	–	–	4.97
France	–	5.08	4.89
Germany-East	–	4.97	5.46
Germany-West	5.34	5.19	5.42
Great Britain	5.25	5.08	5.27
Hungary	4.86	4.78	5.14
Ireland	5.54	–	5.63
Israel	5.26	5.44	5.64
Italy	5.16	5.15	–
Japan	–	4.83	5.45
Latvia	–	–	5.25
Mexico	–	–	5.88
The Netherlands	5.28	5.42	–
New Zealand	–	5.36	4.99
Northern Ireland	5.35	–	–
Norway	5.35	5.24	5.63
Philippines	–	5.64	5.32
Poland	–	5.17	–
Portugal	–	5.21	5.52
Russia	–	4.93	5.22
Slovenia	–	4.94	5.10
Spain	–	5.41	4.94
South Africa	–	–	5.17
South Korea	–	–	4.76
Sweden	–	5.23	5.30
Switzerland	–	5.45	5.72
Taiwan	–	–	5.01
United States	5.43	5.35	5.46

Notes. Separate ANOVA and ANCOVA analysis show significant differences.

For job satisfaction across countries (at 0.05 or less level of significance).

Job Satisfaction is on a 1–7 scale (1 low, 7 high).

Kohli, 2004). As extrinsic rewards and working conditions have been reported to be worse in states Kohli (2004) classifies as cohesive-capitalist, as compared with those same conditions in fragmented multi-class states, in order to examine whether the extent to which states control country-level contextual business-related facets would impact the relative saliency of either intrinsic or extrinsic work characteristics on worker satisfaction, country-level indicators were compiled for each of the 32 nations in wave 3. Dummy variables were created for those country-level contextual variables related to these statist hypotheses, including: (1) high/low scores on the economic freedom index, (2) high/low scores on the rigidity of employment index, (3) high/low scores on the human development

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF OLS MODEL SPECIFICATIONS, BY COUNTRY AND YEAR

Country	1989			1997			2005		
	N	Adjusted. R ²	F	N	Adjusted R ²	F	N	Adjusted R ²	F
Australia	–	–	–	–	–	–	1012	0.5293	60.83***
Austria	771	0.3028	18.6***	–	–	–	–	–	–
Bangladesh	–	–	–	372	0.3791	12.92***	–	–	–
Bulgaria	–	–	–	391	0.3395	11.55***	414	0.2873	9.76***
Canada	–	–	–	423	0.4874	22.12***	459	0.4800	23.25***
Cyprus	–	–	–	454	0.4768	22.73***	481	0.6866	56.34***
Czech Republic	–	–	–	473	0.2851	10.9***	557	0.3911	19.79***
Denmark	–	–	–	602	0.3692	19.52***	793	0.4336	32.91***
Dominican Republic	–	–	–	–	–	–	606	0.2339	10.72***
Finland	–	–	–	–	–	–	539	0.4961	28.87***
Flanders	–	–	–	–	–	–	676	0.1753	8.55***
France	–	–	–	585	0.4798	29.35***	859	0.5701	60.88***
Germany-East	–	–	–	187	0.4617	9.4***	232	0.4020	9.17***
Germany-West	508	0.4991	27.58***	514	0.426	21.04***	440	0.4168	17.51***
Great Britain	626	0.4292	27.11***	483	0.4809	24.51***	394	0.4716	19.46***
Hungary	519	0.2232	9.27***	555	0.3127	14.27***	407	0.2355	7.58***
Ireland	410	0.4444	18.22***	–	–	–	468	0.4609	22.01***
Israel	544	0.2665	11.96***	381	0.3800	13.94***	470	0.4189	18.8***
Italy	473	0.3899	16.88***	375	0.3783	12.98***	–	–	–
Japan	–	–	–	482	0.3615	16.13***	379	0.3331	11.49***
Latvia	–	–	–	–	–	–	530	0.4521	23.98***
Mexico	–	–	–	–	–	–	454	0.2579	9.28***
The Netherlands	570	0.4654	28.52***	–	–	–	–	–	–
New Zealand	–	–	–	248	0.4488	11.58***	750	0.4842	38.00***
Northern Ireland	293	0.4062	12.10***	–	–	–	–	–	–
Norway	861	0.4527	42.84***	1121	0.4375	46.86***	737	0.4677	35.04***
Philippines	–	–	–	457	0.1686	5.87***	555	0.1896	7.82***
Poland	–	–	–	347	0.4531	16.09***	–	–	–
Portugal	–	–	–	761	0.2784	16.43***	923	0.3505	27.19***
Russia	–	–	–	619	0.3871	21.54***	753	0.3336	20.82***
Slovenia	–	–	–	429	0.4334	19.19***	433	0.4259	17.87***
Spain	–	–	–	–	–	–	480	0.3743	16.08***
South Africa	–	–	–	–	–	–	665	0.4608	30.87***
South Korea	–	–	–	–	–	–	491	0.3176	13.67***
Sweden	–	–	–	678	0.453	32.15***	734	0.4800	38.59***
Switzerland	–	–	–	1425	0.4497	62.25***	612	0.3645	19.44***
Taiwan	–	–	–	–	–	–	990	0.3575	29.96***
United States	747	0.463	34.85***	722	0.4402	30.84***	941	0.4272	37.89***
All	6,322	0.3833	207.79***	13,248	0.3870	441.09***	19,234	0.3915	652.33***

Note. Level of significance: *** $p < .001$; – denotes data not available for given year.

index, and (4) high/low scores on the democratization index (see Meyer et al., 1997; Gilpin, 2001; Kohli, 2004 for further justification of these measures; see Appendix A for additional variable details). Then mean scores for main study variables and OLS regression models were run for each sample to allow for comparison of intrinsic and extrinsic work characteristics and their ability to predict job satisfaction. These results are presented in Tables 4–8.

Tables 4 and 5 shows the comparative mean score of main study variables by the different statist-oriented country-level contextual variables and cohesive-capitalist state/fragmented multi-class state classifications. There is a significant difference in overall mean job satisfaction scores when comparing by high/low economic index scores, human development index scores, and cohesive-capitalist versus

TABLE 4. COMPARATIVE MEAN SCORES OF MAIN STUDY VARIABLES, BY COERCIVE-CAPITALIST/FRAGMENTED MULTI-CLASS CLASSIFICATION

<i>Variables</i>	<i>Coercive capitalist</i>	<i>Fragmented multi-class</i>
Job satisfaction	4.92	5.29
Management/employee relations	3.85	3.88
Coworker relations	4.05	4.18
Job autonomy	3.52	3.80
Interesting work	3.41	3.85
Job security	3.40	3.63
Pay	2.72	2.74
Promotional opportunities	2.59	2.74
Workload	3.20	3.35
Physical effort	2.70	2.51
Danger	2.13	2.08

TABLE 5. COMPARATIVE MEAN SCORES OF MAIN STUDY VARIABLES, BY DUMMY INDICES

<i>Variables</i>	<i>Economic freedom</i>		<i>Rigidity of employment</i>		<i>Human development</i>		<i>Democratization</i>	
	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>
Job satisfaction	5.32	5.19	5.23	5.28	5.30	5.13	5.25	5.26
Management/employee relations	3.90	3.86	3.85	3.91	3.88	3.86	3.86	3.92
Coworker relations	4.22	4.11	4.14	4.21	4.23	4.07	4.20	4.12
Job autonomy	3.97	3.56	3.67	3.88	3.91	3.54	3.89	3.54
Interesting work	3.89	3.71	3.76	3.85	3.92	3.61	3.89	3.65
Job security	3.66	3.55	3.58	3.64	3.66	3.52	3.62	3.58
Pay	2.79	2.68	2.69	2.79	2.75	2.72	2.70	2.82
Promotional opportunities	2.72	2.73	2.74	2.70	2.66	2.78	2.67	2.82
Workload	3.26	3.41	3.36	3.29	3.28	3.40	3.31	3.38
Physical effort	2.45	2.61	2.59	2.46	2.43	2.67	2.48	2.62
Danger	2.00	2.17	2.14	2.02	1.99	2.22	2.03	2.19

fragmented multi-class states classification, with countries with relatively higher levels of economic freedom and human development scores experiencing much higher job satisfaction scores than those countries with low scores on those two indices. There is little difference in job satisfaction when comparing by high/low levels of rigidity of employment index and democracy index scores. 'Management/employee relations' and 'coworker relations' mean scores varied little across the different dummy variable comparisons. However, 'job autonomy' mean scores were significantly level in cohesive-capitalist states and in countries with low economic freedom, greater rigidity of employment, low human development, and low levels of democratization. Mean scores for 'interesting work' were very similar across economic freedom, rigidity of employment levels, but were significantly lower for cohesive-capitalist states and those countries with lower levels of human development and democratization. 'Job security' mean scores are lower in countries with lower levels of economic freedom, greater levels employment rigidity, lower levels of human development and democratization, and cohesive-capitalist states, while there is no such consistent pattern for 'pay' or

TABLE 6. OLS REGRESSION RESULTS OF STUDY VARIABLES, BY COERCIVE-CAPITALIST/FRAGMENTED MULTI-CLASS CLASSIFICATION

<i>Variables</i>	<i>Coercive capitalist</i>	<i>Fragmented multi-class</i>
Management/employee relations	0.204***	0.264***
Coworker relations	0.111***	0.086***
Job autonomy	0.056**	0.033***
Interesting work	0.267***	0.311***
Job security	0.097***	0.064***
Pay	0.120***	0.092***
Promotional opportunities	-0.001	0.072***
Workload	-0.106***	-0.078***
Physical effort	-0.008	0.011
Danger	-0.019	-0.018*
Full-time/part-time	0.020	0.030***
Self employed	-0.026	-0.006
Gender	-0.009	0.023***
Age	0.075**	0.037***
Years of education	0.030	-0.051***
Widowed	-0.013	0.020***
Divorced	-0.018	-0.006
Separated	-0.012	-0.004
Single	-0.054*	-0.026***
<i>N</i>	1,860	17,374
Adjusted <i>R</i> ²	0.3362	0.3939
<i>F</i>	50.55***	5950.26***

Note. Level of significance: * $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$; *** $p < .001$; β values.

'promotional opportunities.' However, perceived 'workload,' 'physical effort,' and 'danger' is higher in countries with lower levels of economic freedom, greater levels employment rigidity, and lower levels of human development and democratization.

Furthermore, Tables 6–8 show OLS regression results by relative high/low levels of economic freedom, rigidity of employment, human development, democratization, and cohesive-capitalist state/fragmented multi-class state classifications. It is noteworthy that overall model fit and predictability of job satisfaction levels is much higher in 'fragmented multi-class' countries with higher levels of economic freedom, lower levels employment rigidity, and higher levels of human development and democratization. It is also noteworthy that each of the intrinsic factors ('management/employee relations,' 'coworker relations,' 'job autonomy,' and 'interesting work') have stronger standardized β coefficients (with a couple of minor exceptions) in countries with higher levels of economic freedom, lower levels employment rigidity, and higher levels of human development and democratization. Though there is no clear consistent pattern in the standardized β coefficient strength across all of the extrinsic factors ('job security,' 'pay,' 'promotionally opportunities,' 'workload,' 'physical effort,' and 'danger') across the different statist-related country-level factors, generally speaking, there are stronger standardized β coefficients for the extrinsic job characteristics in countries with lower levels of economic freedom, greater levels employment rigidity, and lower levels of human development and democratization¹⁰.

¹⁰ Comparative OLS regression results by each of the statist country-contextual variable dummies, replacing each of the specific intrinsic and extrinsic job characteristics with the 'intrinsic' and 'extrinsic' indices, are available upon request. These results are consistent with the 'intrinsic' and 'extrinsic' patterns presented above.

TABLE 7. OLS REGRESSION RESULTS OF STUDY VARIABLES ON JOB SATISFACTION, BY ECONOMIC FREEDOM AND RIGIDITY OF EMPLOYMENT INDICES

Variables	Economic freedom		Rigidity of employment	
	High	Low	High	Low
Management/employee Relations	0.269***	0.251***	0.243***	0.276***
Coworker relations	0.105***	0.070***	0.078***	0.099***
Job autonomy	0.027***	0.043***	0.038***	0.035***
Interesting work	0.344***	0.278***	0.293***	0.328***
Job security	0.067***	0.067***	0.065***	0.072***
Pay	0.083***	0.104***	0.109***	0.072***
Promotional opportunities	0.061***	0.072***	0.075***	0.057***
Workload	-0.100***	-0.055***	-0.077***	-0.074***
Physical effort	0.037***	-0.026*	-0.015	0.032**
Danger	-0.019*	-0.017	-0.009	-0.031**
Full-time/part-time	0.000	-0.016	-0.012	-0.004
Self-employed	0.020*	0.037***	0.035***	0.020*
Gender	0.024**	0.013	0.022**	0.016
Age	0.036***	0.040***	0.030***	0.049***
Years of education	-0.044***	-0.046***	-0.044***	-0.046***
Widowed	0.004	0.024**	0.016*	0.016*
Divorced	-0.003	-0.011	-0.018*	0.006
Separated	0.001	-0.005	-0.009	0.004
Single	-0.024**	-0.034***	-0.028***	-0.032***
N	9,988	9,246	10,344	8,890
Adjusted R ²	0.4233	0.3652	0.3758	0.4127
F	386.88***	280.99***	328.71***	329.77***

Note. Level of significance: * $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$; *** $p < .001$; β values.

Thus, based on comparative OLS regression results of job satisfaction and its determinants in cohesive-capitalist/fragmented multi-class state classification and other country-level variables related to the state, there is fairly strong support for H1, H2a, and H2b. In relation to H1 specifically, countries with lower levels of economic freedom, greater levels employment rigidity, lower levels of human development and democratization, and those classified as cohesive-capitalist states have significantly lower job satisfaction levels than those countries with higher levels of economic freedom, lower levels of employment rigidity, higher levels of human development and democratization, and those classified as fragmented multi-class states. Additionally, there are significant differences between the mean scores of other intrinsic and extrinsic job characteristics, depending on country classification and levels of economic freedom, rigidity of employment, human development, and level of democratization.

In relation to H2a and H2b specifically, based on comparative OLS regression results of job satisfaction and its determinants by country-level variables related to the state, in countries with higher levels of economic freedom, lower levels employment rigidity, and higher levels of human development and democratization, intrinsic work characteristics do provide greater overall predictability in overall perceived job satisfaction and have greater standardized β coefficients than their extrinsic counterparts. Once more, in countries with lower levels of economic freedom, greater levels employment rigidity, and lower levels of human development and democratization, extrinsic work characteristics generally have equal or greater standardized β coefficients than the extrinsic

TABLE 8. OLS REGRESSION RESULTS OF STUDY VARIABLES ON JOB SATISFACTION, BY HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIZATION INDICES

Variables	Human development		Democratization	
	High	Low	High	Low
Management/employee Relations	0.275***	0.232***	0.255***	0.261***
Coworker relations	0.106***	0.061***	0.105***	0.055***
Job autonomy	0.041***	0.026*	0.049***	0.025*
Interesting work	0.344***	0.250***	0.344***	0.256***
Job security	0.058***	0.080***	0.061***	0.083***
Pay	0.079***	0.119***	0.077***	0.118***
Promotional opportunities	0.071***	0.069***	0.073***	0.049***
Workload	-0.100***	-0.044***	-0.095***	-0.048***
Physical effort	0.038***	-0.048***	0.034***	-0.041***
Danger	-0.024**	-0.012	-0.025**	-0.011
Full-time/part-time	0.004	-0.025**	0.008	-0.029**
Self employed	0.021**	0.032**	0.016*	0.049***
Gender	0.018*	0.010	0.017*	0.012
Age	0.038***	0.053***	0.042***	0.044***
Years of education	-0.056***	-0.028**	-0.059***	-0.016
Widowed	0.006	0.025*	0.007	0.023*
Divorced	-0.006	-0.007	0.002	-0.018
Separated	0	-0.008	-0.006	0.007
Single	-0.022**	-0.034**	-0.024**	-0.029**
N	11,456	7,324	12,476	6,758
Adjusted R ²	0.4405	0.3354	0.4244	0.3558
F	475.60***	195.52***	485.05***	197.4***

Note. Level of significance: * $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$; *** $p < .001$; β values.

coefficients in the countries with higher levels of economic freedom, lower levels employment rigidity, and higher levels of human development and democratization. However, the results clearly show that in each case (regardless of country classification), intrinsic work characteristics add the most overall predictability to perceived job satisfaction of workers within those countries. To get a clearer picture as to the full impact that state-directed country-level contextual business related facets have on workers' job characteristics and perceived satisfaction levels, future research needs to examine a greater number and wider variety of countries, while exploring other theoretically relevant country-level variables that may help to explore country level differences from a statist perspective.

CONCLUSIONS

Discussion

While no previous research has been done to show the link between statist-oriented country-level contextual business-related facets and perceived worker satisfaction, findings from this study have demonstrated such a connection, with fragmented multi-class states experiencing better perceived working conditions and job satisfaction than workers in cohesive-capitalist states. Additionally, as was reported earlier OLS regression results of job satisfaction by country showed that intrinsic workplace factors have a stronger impact on worker satisfaction in fragmented multi-class states, while extrinsic

conditions have a stronger impact on worker satisfaction in cohesive-capitalist states. Furthermore, these findings support the crux of needs fulfillment job satisfaction models, that individuals first need to adequately address their extrinsic 'existence/survival' needs before focusing on the higher level intrinsic 'actualization' needs (see Maslow, 1943; Herzberg, Mausner, & Snyderman, 1959; Alderfer, 1972).

However, the results clearly show that in each case (regardless of country classification), intrinsic work characteristics add the most overall predictability to perceived job satisfaction of workers within the 32 participating countries. While at first look, this result may seem at odds with the statist theory and its corresponding hypotheses, I believe it actually provides greater support for the statist perspective, as the 32 participating countries in 2005 were predominantly fragmented multi-class states and a handful of cohesive-capitalist states (no clear neopatrimonial states participated). Future research examining a greater number and broader variety of countries (particularly including neopatrimonial states) would be able to shed additional light on the relevance of the statist perspectives in understanding cross-national differences in work characteristics and perceived worker satisfaction.

A generalizable cross-national model of job satisfaction?

Ever since Smith, Kendall, and Hulin's (1969) job descriptive index and Hackman and Oldham's (1980) job characteristics model of job satisfaction, researchers have made modest variations to this earlier foundational work to develop a variety of job satisfaction models. Among those job satisfaction models still used today, arguably none are as commonly used as the one developed by Kalleberg (1977) and used by Handel (2005) and countless others. In each case, this commonly accepted model has been considered to be widely generalizable across a wide variety of cross-cultural and cross-national contexts. However, as I demonstrated through Table 4 previously, Kalleberg (1977) and Handel's (2005) generally accepted job satisfaction model is not simply generalizable across countries around the world. Rather, what is generally considered a widely generalizable job satisfaction model actual holds up very differently in countries around the world within varying country-level contexts, with overall predictability and job satisfaction determinants' significance levels varying widely from country to country. This means that researchers should take great caution in comparing results from different job satisfaction studies performed around the world. Rather, a new and expanded model of job satisfaction, one that takes into account country-contextual differences, is vitally needed.

Practical implications

Results show that both intrinsic and extrinsic work characteristics strongly impact worker job satisfaction. Therefore, it is important for any work organization (such as multinational corporations, global NGO's, local and national governments, and labor unions) to understand that individual workers in different countries face unique country-contextual conditions that impact their experience in the workplace (above and beyond commonly understood cross-cultural differences).

For worker organizations, such as labor unions, findings suggest that a worker's satisfaction with their employment experience will differ greatly depending on the country-contextual economic conditions and the level of state-directed development within a given country. Results suggest that intrinsic workplace factors (such as job autonomy, interesting work, and workplace relationships) have a stronger impact on worker satisfaction in 'fragmented multi-class' countries, while extrinsic conditions (such as higher pay, opportunity for advancement, and manageable workload) have a stronger impact on worker satisfaction in 'cohesive-capitalist' countries. For union strategies and goals, this means that unions need to be aware of these fundamental differences in worker preferences and develop long-term union goals/strategies to help enhance the workers' experience on the job.

Due to the fact the worker job satisfaction impacts firm performance and various measures of worker well-being, firms operating in countries with different levels of state-directed development need to be cognizant of these differences and unique challenges and work to tailor management philosophy and policy to create a unique work atmosphere that will benefit the interests of both the employer and the employee, as well as society at large.

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APPENDIX A

Country contextual variables

- *Economic freedom index*: Index ranges from 0 to 100, with higher values indicating less government influence and lower values indicating more repressive political regimes. The index relies on the following sources for data on banking and finance, in order of priority: Economist Intelligence Unit, Country Commerce, Country Finance, Country Profile, and Country Report, 2007–2009; International Monetary Fund, Staff Country Report, ‘Selected Issues and Statistical Appendix,’ and Staff Country Report, ‘Article IV Consultation,’ 2007–2009; Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, Economic Survey; official government publications of each country; US Department of Commerce, Country Commercial Guide, 2007–2009; Office of the US Trade Representative, 2009 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers; US Department of State, Investment Climate Statements 2009; World Bank, World Development Indicators 2009; and various news and magazine articles on banking and finance (see <http://www.heritage.org/index/Financial-Freedom.aspx>).
- *Economic freedom index high/low*: Whether a country had high (>2.65) or low (<2.65) economic freedom index score.
- *Rigidity of employment index*: Measures the regulation of employment, specifically the hiring and firing of workers and the rigidity of working hours. This index is the average of three sub-indices: a difficulty of hiring index, a rigidity of hours index, and a difficulty of firing index. The index ranges from 0 to 100, with higher values indicating more rigid regulations (World Development Indicators Database).
- *Rigidity of employment high/low*: Whether a country had high (>35) or low (<35) rigidity of employment index scores.
- *Human development index*: The human development index combines three dimensions: (1) life expectancy at birth, as an index of population health and longevity, (2) knowledge and education, as measured by the adult literacy rate (with two-thirds weighting) and the combined primary, secondary, and tertiary gross enrollment ratio (with one-third weighting), and (3) standard of living, as measured by the natural logarithm of gross domestic product per capita at purchasing power parity (UNDP – Human Development Report).
- *Human development index high/low*: Whether a country had high (>90) or low (<90) human development index score.
- *Democracy index*: Index compiled by The Economist examining the state of democracy in 167 countries, attempting to quantify this with an Economist Intelligence Unit Index of Democracy which focused on five general categories: electoral process and pluralism, civil liberties, functioning of government, political participation and political culture. The democracy index is a kind of weighted average based on the answers of 60 questions, each one with either two or three permitted alternative answers. The democracy index, rounded to one decimal, decides the classification of the country, as quoted: (1) full democracies – scores of 8–10, (2) flawed democracies – scores of 6–7.9, (3) hybrid regimes – scores of 4–5.9, and (4) authoritarian regimes – scores below 4 (The Economist Intelligence Unit’s index of democracy 2006).
- *Democracy index high/low*: Whether a country had high (>8) or low (<8) democracy index score.
- *Cohesive-capitalist versus fragmented multi-class dummy variable* (see Kohli, 2004).